



E-SAGARMATHA SAMACHAR

Vol. 36 No. 9

Nepal Jesuits

September 2021

REGION SUPERIOR APPOINTS

1. Fr. B. Rajasekaran Teacher, St. Xavier's School, Deonia
 2. Fr. Sanctius Beck Minister, Arrupe Niwas, Deonia
 3. Fr. Tej Kalyan Kujur Minister, Faber House, Maheshpur (Additional responsibility)
- (Effective from September 5, 2021)

REGION SUPERIOR'S PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 2021

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 09 - 13 | Vision - SBK, Pokhara |
| 21 - 24 | Vision - SXJ, Jawalakhel |
| 29 | Region Consult |

FIVE DAY RETREAT FOR RELIGIOUS (NON-JESUITS)

Retreat Preacher: Fr. Augustine Thomas Amakkatt
 Venue: Godavari Ashram
 Date: 15-20 October, 2021
 Contact: Fr. David - 9849286204
 Br. Broney -9840265088

LAW AND GRACE FOR JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

By Víctor Manuel Fernández

When Saint Paul speaks of justification by faith, he is actually exploring a deep conviction of some Jewish traditions. Because if one were to affirm that one's justification is obtained through the fulfillment of the Law through one's own strength, without divine help, one would be falling into the worst of idolatries, which consists in worshipping oneself, one's own strength, and one's own works, instead of worshipping the one God.

It is essential to remember that some texts of the Old Testament and many extra-biblical Jewish texts already showed a religiosity of trust in God's love and invited one to a fulfillment of the law actuated in the depths of the heart through divine action (cf. Jer 31:3,33-34; Ez 11:19-20; 36:25-27; Hos 11:1-9, etc.).[1] "Emunah," an attitude of deep trust in Yahweh, which actuates authentic fulfillment of the Law, "is at the very heart of the requirement of the whole Torah." [2].

A recent echo of this ancient Jewish conviction, which renounces self-sufficiency before God, can be found in the following phrase of Rabbi Israel Baal Shem Tov (early 19th century): "I fear my good deeds that produce pleasure much more than my bad ones that produce horror." [3]

Jewish traditions also recognize that fulfilling the Law in its entirety requires a transformation that starts in the heart. Christians and Jews do not say that it is the outward fulfillment of certain customs that matters, without the inward impulse of God. In reality, Jewish theology coincides with Christian doctrine on this point, especially if we start from the texts of Jeremiah and Ezekiel, where the need for purification and transformation of the heart appears. How can we not see Rom 2:28-29 as a continuation and deepening of Jeremiah 4:4 and 9:24-25? Jews and Christians alike recognize that the external law alone cannot change us without the purifying and transforming work of God (Ez 36:25-27), who has already begun to make Himself present for us in His Messiah (Gal 2:20-21).

On the other hand, we recall that, according to the very profound interpretation of Saint Augustine and Saint Thomas on the Pauline theology of the new law, the sterility of an external law without divine help is not only a characteristic of the Jewish Law, but also of the precepts that Jesus Himself left us: "The letter, even of the Gospel, would kill unless there were the inward presence of the healing grace of faith." [4]

Courtesy: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-08/archbishop-fernandez-la-plata-argentina-law-judaism-christianity.html>

PRADESH 2 MISSION

Frs. Jiju, Arulanandam reached Fr. Dilip and Bro. Clarence to Bandipur, Siraha, Province no. 2 for starting a mission. NJSI bolero pickups were used to



Fr. Dilip, Fr. Arul, Br. Clarence

drop us. Since rooms were not set up and it was too late and we were exhausted, Jiju arranged through parents a hotel to stay overnight. We, six Jesuits along with two drivers spent overnight at Gautam Hotel, Bardibas. The next day i.e. 3rd of August, we requested Fr. Arul to stay one more day so that we could use his vehicle to carry necessary materials such as mattresses, almirah etc. Fr. Arul's stay was of great help in setting up the newly rented room.

Contract was signed only after few days with Ms. Uma Pandey and Mr. Man Bahadur Pandey, the house owners, for the purpose of renting the flat. Since we had agreed verbally to rent their flats on 1st of August, we kept it as it is though signing was done later.

We couldn't arrived on 1st of August due to technical problem in the vehicle.

We talked with Mr. Bhanu, Principal of Nepal Rashtriya Phul Kumari Mahato Higher Secondary School, Bandipur Bazar, Siraha about possibility of starting classes though lockdown has been still in operation. Being the community school, he was reluctant and not in favor of opening the class rooms for tutoring the children. Therefore, we decided to visit some places by using public vehicles. On the 20th we visited Zero Mile which is located 28 km away

from Bandipurbazar towards Lahan. Mr. Santosh Magar, who was a Jesuit candidate and who works at Caritas Nepal currently helped us contact his brother Mr. Dinesh Magar and his neighbor Mr. Ramesh Kumar Shrestha who showed us the site for possible mission. The area is inhabited by people of



Fr. Dilip, Br. Clarence, Fr. Anup

different communities. The following day, we visited Raghunathpur, Dhanusha district which is located 11 k.m. away from Bandipurbazar. Mr. Manoj Kumar Sah who is one of the alumnae of St. Xavier's College, Department of Social Work was in his village and

invited us to have interaction with some educated and visionary persons about the possibility of Jesuit mission there. The youth expressed full support and cooperation. They also shared about real opposition by some groups and possible threats. We were blessed by few guests visiting us. Mr. Benu Gautam, ex-staff of St. Xavier's College made a quick

visit while on his way to Kathmandu. On 25 August, Mr. Shailendra Sah, an alumnae of St. Xavier's College and also who accompanied Fr. Dilip and Bro. Clarence during Province 2 visit. On his second visit, he stayed overnight and shared about issues concerning the mission area. We were glad to receive first Jesuit visitor, Fr. Anup who stayed with us for a few days. We thank Fr. Anup for bringing mass kits all the way from India.

Fr. Dilip K. Toppo



Rented flat in this house



Fr. Dilip, Br. Clarence with owners of the house

KARNALI PROVINCE MISSION



Fr. Arul with Far-West Deanery

Arul went to Kohalpur to attend a meeting of the Far-West Nepal Deanery on August 4, the feast of St. John Mary Vianney. At the meeting, Fr. Jomon Maikunnel welcomed the priests and religious and initiated the group to have a pastoral planning for the Far-West Nepal Deanery for the year 2021-22. The feast day Mass and the subsequent cultural program and lunch were attended by the Kohalpur parishioners. Arul visited a few mobile clinic centers and interacted with the villagers and patients. He gave an orientation talk to the teachers of Septi, a government school. He also went to Tallo Dungeser, one of the mobile clinic centers and interacted with the teachers of Mahadev Mavi School. The village is located near Karnali River on the way to Jumla. He visited Girighat where there were more than 50 families who were affected by landslides and flood. The government has given a temporary place of refuge for them.

Arul attended a half-day meeting organized by Sr.



Fr. Arul with Far-West Deanery & students

Rosita, SCN. The meeting was also attended by Birendranagar Mayor and other officials who are involved in evaluating the projects of Navajyoti Center. The Mayor expressed his gratitude to Sr. Rosita and the Navajyoti Center on behalf of the Karnali Province government for working for the upliftment of the poor and the marginalized. The St. Xavier's Social Service Center old boys Suraj and Bikash spent a day in the Jesuit house. While Arul prepared lunch for them, the boys did the cleaning of the house. Arul went with the SCN Sisters to bless all the Catholic families in Surkhet and had family rosaries. There is regular catechism class attended by the faithful and a few catechumens.

Arul made a short visit to Kathmandu to meet Fr. Bill Robins, to thank him and to receive his blessings before he left for Canada. Arul is eagerly waiting to welcome Fr. Jomon Jose who has returned to Kathmandu after his home visit.

Fr. Arul Selvam



Faithful praying in the SCN convent



Government school staff, Septi village

St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel



Fr. Bill Robins completed his 50 Years of his priestly ordination on 5 June 2021. Hence, the year 2021 is the Golden Year for Fr. Bill Robins. A Golden Jubilee is an occasion of thanksgiving and celebration

priest of St. Xavier's Church, Maheshpur. Although Fr. Anil Beck was taking care of St. Ignatius church, Baniyatar in the absence of Fr. Tej Kalyan but now Fr. Anil is appointed Parish priest of St. Ignatius church,



Fr. Bill reading the Gospel



Jesuit community of Jawalakhel



Br. Hermon feeding Bill a piece of cake

because completing 50 years of priestly life marks significant milestones that certainly need to be celebrated. It is a long journey and a great achievement for Fr. Bill. Therefore, Nepal Jesuit Society celebrated his Golden Jubilee on his 78th birthday on August 10. The Priests, Nuns and close friends of Fr. Bill were invited for the graceful celebration. Bishop Paul Simick presided over the Holy Eucharist at St. Xavier's school, Jawalakhel. After the mass we had a short felicitation program and 'agape'. Br. Hermon worked hard to provide a delicious meal. Fr. Bill Robins Came to Nepal in 1977 and worked for 44 years in Nepal. Obviously, it was a tough decision for him to return to Canada, his native country. On August 25, the valley Jesuits gathered at St. Xavier's school, Jawalakhel to bid adieu to Fr. Bill Robins and on the 26th Fr. Bill returned to Canada after working in Nepal for very long. Fr. Amrit, Fr. Juel, and Sch. Ashish and Fr. Sanjay accompanied him to the airport. Thank you, Fr. Bill, for your hard work and service for the Nepal region and wish you a pleasant stay in the new community over there.

This month we celebrated a few birthdays of community members, namely Fr. Tomson, Fr. Ignatius and Fr. Bill. On August 3, Fr. Tej Kalyan went to Maheshpur and took a new responsibility as a Parish

Baniyatar. Sch. Ashish Ekka wrote the T.U. entrance exam for MBS on August 21 and he is waiting for the result. On August 27, Fr. Jomon came back to Kathmandu after spending quality time, about one and half months, with his family members.

On August 14, there was an online entrance test for Class 11 new admission. The exam was conducted for 3 days and at the end of the day the result was published. On August 28 the virtual orientation program was conducted for the newly admitted students for class 11. Fr. Sanjay welcomed the participants and Fr. George addressed them.

The school is trying its level best to help the students through various activities beside the regular online classes. On the occasion of feast day of St. Ignatius, the school conducted a quiz contest between the students of St. Xavier's Jawalakhel and St. Xavier's Godavari on 31 of July. On the other hand, the quiz contest for the joint schools also was conducted on August 18. The school organized the virtual awareness program on Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults for the teachers on 29 of August. The resource person was Fr. Konrad, from Bombay province.

Fr. Sanjay Ekka



Rt. Rev. Bishop Paul presiding the mass along with Fr. Bill and Fr. Amrit



St. Xavier's School, Godavari



Monsoon rain

The incessant rainy days of the month was August. In spite of torrential rain we still managed to keep the school surrounding neat and clean. We are blessed with innumerable gifts of nature. On the other side continuous rainfall over the past few days has inundated several Tarai districts across the country.

SEE results were out at the end of the first week. What would be a student's self confidence level of learning in the framework of IPP?

The SEE results of SXG 2077

GPA 3.9	04
GPA 3.6-3.9	22 Students
GPA 3.2-3.6	28 Students
GPA 2.8-3.2	28 Students
GPA 2.4-2.8	05 Students
Total Students	= 87

In the second week, class eleven board exams were held and forms were distributed for admission test. Fr. Samuel Simick the Principal kept himself busy organizing and planning for class eleven board exams, new admission entrance test for class eleven and orientations. Fr. Lawrence M. was busy with online classes. Bro. T. B. Thapa involved in various activities of the school and community. During Gaijatra holiday Fr. David E. visited Panchkhal where he found the climate extremely hot and no electricity at night.

On August 12, the community invited Jawalakhel Jesuits and had thanksgiving dinner for Fr. Bill Robins. SXG is grateful for his dedicated service and years of contribution to Nepal.

The students participated in joint schools' online quiz contest on August 18. Due to online the event was very unique. In the third week, entrance test result of eleven was out.

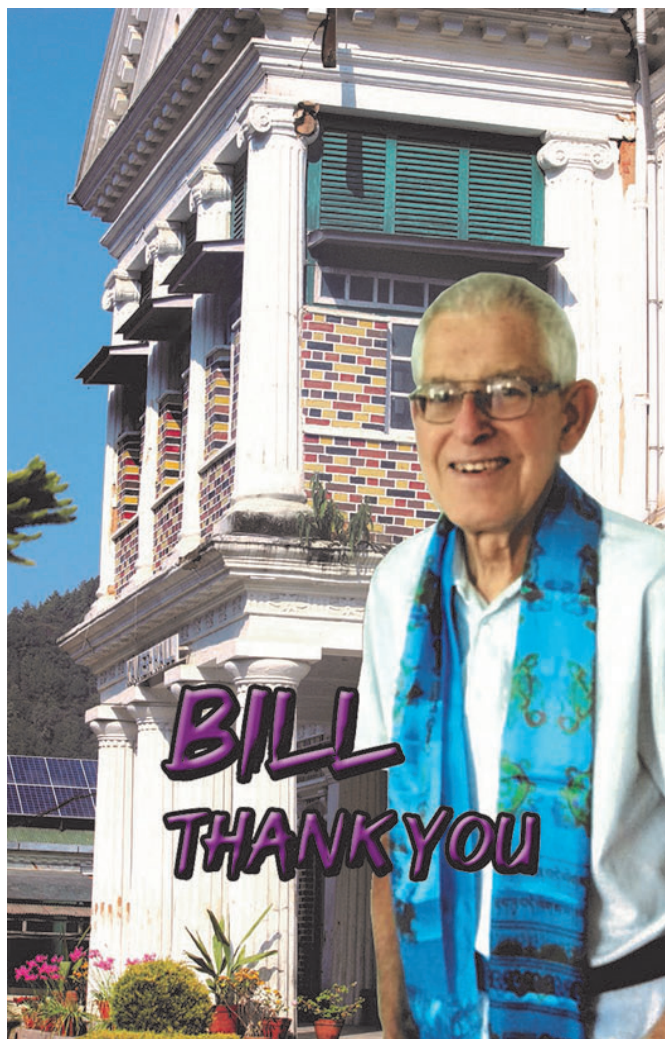
On the 27th the school had an orientation for class

11 students and parents. The majority of the students were from other schools.

On August 29 the school staff attended the online seminar on Protection of children and vulnerable adults by Fr. Conrad Noronha, S.J. (BOM). Thanks to Fr. Conrad Noronha for his in-depth inputs and wisdom which are very relevant in teaching and learning. Thanks to Fr. George P.M. the Principal of St. Xavier's School, Jawalakhel for organizing the seminar.

We were happy to have visitors: Fr. Amit Lakra and Fr. Sydroy Gonsalves (Pillar) from Pokhara.

SXG Sources



Fr. Bill against the backdrop of Xavier Hall, Old Rana Summer Place

FABER HOUSE, MAHESHPUR

This year as St. Ignatius feast fell on Saturday, we had a grand celebration at the parish level. Fr. Justin Lepcha, was the main celebrant. In the mass the new statues of Pieta and St. Joseph were installed in the church and blessed. After the feast day mass, Fr. Jacob Punnelparambil, SBD, had a meeting with the catechists of the different mass centers to plan out for the future catechetical programs. The Jesuits of Deonia community joined us for the festive din-



Fr. Tej receives responsibility of a Parish priest from Fr. Norbert in the evening. The community also celebrated the Faber day, on August 2. On that day, we had a special community mass in the evening followed by feast day dinner. Fr. Tej Kalyan Kujur, our new Parish Priest arrived on August 3. The community members extend a warm welcome to him. On the 4th we celebrated the St. John Mary Vianney's feast, the festive lunch was sponsored by Fr. Justin. In the evening we had a holy Eucharist in the F.C Sisters convent and the Sisters felicitated Fr. Justin, Fr. Tej Kalyan in a special way and all the priests. On the 7th, the parishioners welcomed Fr. Tej Kalyan and also thanked Fr. Norbert. On the same occasion handing over of the parish priest took place and Fr. Tej assumed the responsibilities as a new parish priest. On 28 August, the feast day of St. Monica, we celebrated *Amma diwas* (Mothers' Day) in the parish. In spite of heavy rain good number of mothers participated in the mass, and after the mass the youth put up a cultural program for the *Ammas* (mothers) and felicitated them. As a third phase of Covid relief from Faber house, 36 families in Mittal were given dry ration.

Fr. Amrit, the Regional Superior came for Visitation on the 18th evening. He remained with us until 23rd evening. His visitation was a moment of grace and also gave us a new hope. Our zeal for mission and bond of community life was rejuvenated. He met the community members individually and as a group. He availed himself generously to those who wanted to meet him more than once. On 21 August, Saturday he offered mass at parish after which he met the catechists and youth leaders. Fr.

Amrit also visited practically all the substations and celebrated mass in Jalthal and Gherabari.

In the school, the online classes are on, with its leaps and bounds. The SEE result of 2077 batch was encouraging. Sachin Kisku secured 3.9 GPA and stood first in the school.

GPA 3.2-3.9	10 Students
GPA 2.8-3.15	23 Students
GPA 2.55-2.75	03 Students
Total Students	= 36

Fr. Amrit addressed the MMS teachers; in his talk he emphasized that Moran school as a Jesuit school should embody the four UAPs. He sighted some examples of how some of the UAPs are already put in to practice in the school and parish, further he encouraged and invited the staff to collaborate with the Jesuits and the people of good will to do much more in this regard. Fr. Amrit also clarified some of the queries of the staff with regard to SSF. After meeting the staff together, he made himself available to the teachers who wanted to meet him personally. Another joyful event that took place in the presence of the Fr. Amrit was the much expected and several time postponed class 10 (2077) batch farewell. On the 22nd the present class 10 students gave farewell to the outgoing class 10 students. In the program the first three toppers (Sachin Kisku, Saurav Rajbanshi, Rohit Hasda) of our school in SEE- 2077, were felicitated. Fr. Amrit motivated the students with his inspiring speech. Along with the class 10 students, Mr. Amit Roy and Binoy Toppo were also given farewell from the school. One of the staff representatives and Fr. Nicholas, thanked both of them for their 9 and 11 long years of service to this institution respectively. The outgoing class 10 students expressed their gratefulness to the Jesuits and the staff in forming each one of them to be a person of integrity. The staff and students appreciated the arrangement of the program.

Fr. Nicholas Christuraj



Farewell of Cl. 10



Fr. Norbert distributes relief kits

CAMPION HOUSE, MAITIGHAR

Dilip and Clarence left for Province 2 after completing all the preparations needed on 2nd of August. Jiju and Arul accompanied them and helped them to settle down.

Online classes continue in full swing for all the programs currently. Some practical classes are also taking place in the science streams. Class 11 admissions have been completed online rather smoothly. This year we were able to conduct an entrance test as well. Orientation for the new class 11 students and their parents is scheduled for the 31st. Their classes will begin from the next day onwards.

Admissions for Master level programs are going on. Deepak and Ashish have now become bona fide MBS students of the college after successfully appearing for the entrance examination conducted by TU and the interview by the college.

Robert got the news that his 86-year-old mother was not doing well after a fall in their parish church a few days ago. He went home to be with his ailing mother. Sadly, he could not spend enough time with her; she

succumbed to her old age and left this world on 30 August. Cap finally got his second dose of vaccine. Everyone in the community is now fully vaccinated. The second edition of the TEDx Maitighar was organized by our students in collaboration with others on the 21st. They used the big hall in the Loyola Campus. Rajesh Hamal, Dr. Bhagwan Koirala, Bidhan Shrestha, and Sakar Sharma were some of the eminent speakers. These talks will be available online once TED media organization approves them.

Making use of the long weekend including *Janai Purnima and Gaijatra*, some of the community members decided to take a break. James went off to Godavari. Augustine, Robert and Jiju decided on an overnight hike to Chisopani joined by Juel and Bimal from NJS office. It was fun going up through the lush green forest with very little rain and plenty of leaches. However, they had to get a lift while returning since the rain was too heavy for hiking.

Campion Jesuit Source

HRDRC SANEPA

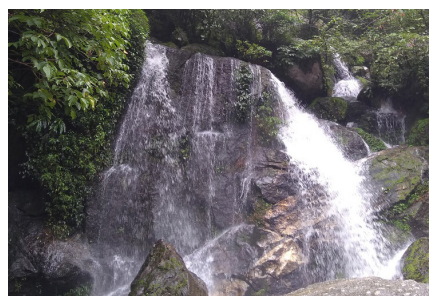
Region Superior, Fr. Amrit went to Jhapa Mission for his annual visitation from August 12-23. He visited all the Jesuit communities, institutes and mass centers meeting and interacting with our Jesuits, parishioners, and teachers. I am sure the people of Jhapa Mission drew much consolation and blessings from his visit. He returned to the community on August 24. Fr. Juel and Mr. Bimal Basnet joined some of the Campion House Jesuits for one-day trek to Chisopani. They had fun time of removing leaches from their bodies after they reached the Hotel. The fear of leaches was soon forgotten as they pampered themselves into cozy evening of 'holy hour'. Unfortunately, they could not start down trek next morning due to excessive rain. So, they took a shared taxi way back home. Both Fr. Mathew and

Juel had mild fevers during the month. Fr. Juel has started attending his MPhil class in the evenings from August 18. Frs. Amrit and Juel accompanied Fr. William J. Robins to Tribhuvan International Airport along with Fr. Sanjay and Sch. Ashish from Jawalakhel Jesuits and bade good bye to him on August 26. The HRDRC community had quite a number of visitors this month. SCN Sisters from Surkhet came for lunch on August 24. Frs. Amit Lakra and Sydroy came here on August 24 and stayed with us for about a week. Now we have Frs. Anup and Ayar with us. Anup came back from his home visit and is on the way to Tipling. Fr. Ayar has come to reissue of his passport in the Indian Embassy.

Fr. Juel Kispotta



Fr. Robert, Fr. Jiju & Mr. Bimal



Waterfall at Sudrijal



Mr. Bimal, a NJS staff

ARRUPE NIWAS, DEONIA

Deonia SJ's joined the Maheshpur SJ's to celebrate the feast-festival of St. Ignatius. A strict



Class 12 promotion test in person

lockdown at the time did not dampen the festivities. Nor did the lockdown prevent visits to our property, of old four-footed friends, the monkeys and elephants, upon whose territory we seem to have encroached over the years.

The lockdown has been a stop-and-go affair. Classes continue online though busses bring students in for tests, on occasion. They, the busses that is, are parked once more, as you read this. The drivers have been kept busy however working on the grounds, doing odd maintenance and minor construction work. Fr. Daniel sees to this in between a busy schedule of grade 11 and 12 classes and board exams. Thirty-seven science and management students are cur-

rently giving their practicals for their board exams. Fr. Bonny's day too, ends late in the evening, interviewing parents of our students, class by class.

The extension of the playing fields got off to a good start. Heavy rains however have since delayed the work including the completion of two new basketball courts.

Our staff went into town for the covid vaccination. Twice. The vials of serum mysteriously disappeared the first time they went in but dutifully reappeared some days later and they were duly 'vaxxed'. Border crossing privileges have been the main motivation for Ours to submit to the testing and jabbing.

Fr. Mike represented the Jhapa Jesuits at Fr. Bill's jubilee/farewell ceremony in Kathmandu. He and Bill entered the Jesuits on the same day at the same novitiate in Canada in 1960.

Fr. Amrit addressed our school staff online while he was here for the customary annual visitation.

He greatly enjoyed the green environment while on his daily jog around our 'estate'. He and Fr. Bonny were the occasion for another feast-festival here: their 'twin' birthday party.

Scholastic David, our busy minister, used his 'vaxport' to cross the border into India to write his final exam for an M.A.(Phil.) there in Siliguri.

Arrupe Niwas Jesuit Sources



Extention of playing field

GONZAGA HOUSE, SADAKBARI

We had a wonderful experience of Novena of St. Ignatius and had a wonderful celebration of our founder in both the places Sadakbari and Simalbari. Eucharist was well organized with welcome entrance dance. On this occasion, we blessed the Statue of St. Joseph in both the places to mark the Year of St. Joseph. After the mass, Jesuits were felicitated and a short program was organized. A lunch pack was given to all. In the evening, we had a small gathering with our collaborators Sisters from Sadakbari and Simalbari. In the school we continued to work out about the running of the informal class and finally we came up with an idea of Mobile Class based on our findings. Entire student body was divided into 10 areas where teacher go to teach. In our first attempt we have taken only five major subjects, and still looking forward to improve this mobile class. Though it is very challenging for the staff, they are doing it faithfully, thus students and parents are happy. We have begun regular tuition class for class 8 in the school itself from 7.30 to 10.30, three subjects a day and the attendance are good.

Fr. Amrit arrived here for the visitation on the 11th along with Engineers Mr. Ashok and Ms. Seliya Thapa. They went to the location of our proposed church building. Fr. Boni drove them here and were back to Deonia. Fr. Amrit stayed on for the Visitation. It was a grace moment for the community. On



Fr. Amrit



all the best and thanked her for being a part of SXS family. On the 14th he said Mass in Simalbari and had a surprise pre birthday celebration. He met with the parishioners then came to Sadakbari to meet the parishioners. In the afternoon he went to Deonia. The following day there was a twin Birthday celebration of Frs. Amrit and Boni in Deonia. Three of us went there to be part of the celebration whereas Br. Irenius guarded the house.

On 22 August, we had Onam celebration with sisters, a feast celebrated by the people of Kerala.

At the parish level, things are going on smoothly, masses are on, SCC prayer is regular. In the mass each group gets chance to conduct prayers and help out - Fathers, Mothers, Youth and Crusvir. We as a community along with Sisters have started visiting the families and praying with them. As per now two families a week. Families are also asking for Mass so mass is also being offered in the families. St. Monica day was celebrated on the 28th in both the places. In spite of torrential rain, Mass attendance was good. After the mass, felicitation was there for the mothers. At the end, Snacks were arranged for everyone. A sad news is Mr. Sufal Tudu from Beldangi in Simalbari passed away on the 27th, he was not well lately and was in old age too.

We had three visitors this month: Fr. Anup on his way back after home visit stayed a day with us. Frs. Paul and Tej came here for a quick visit.

For the regular updates of school you can visit our facebook page: @sxsjhapa

And for the Parish: @SMCSadakbari

Fr. Vijay Pratap Toppo



Ganzaga community with St. Anne Sisters

the 13th he met with the staff and also spoke about the Ignatian Year and its importance to them. After the meeting, he wished one of the outgoing teachers



Faithful during mass



Mobile classes



Fr. Amrit interacting with Parishioners

KAMAL NIWAS, BHAKUNDOL

On 2 August Fr. Arul went to Bardibas with Fr. Dilip and his team. There were six persons and two vans carrying materials for the new mission. We reached in the evening but all of us were not able



Handing over smart hub devices Fr. Dilip loads for new mission to stay in the new house so we stayed in Bardibas. Next day Fr. Jiju and Lal, the driver returned to Kathmandu. Fr. Arul with other two companions went back to Bandipur carrying house hold materials. We cleaned the rooms and arranged the kitchen for cooking. On the 4th after lunch Fr. Arul left Bandipur, Province 2. Prayers for new mission.

This month is Smart Hub month. Nepal Jesuit Social Institute (NJSI) has launched the Rural Education Improvement Nepal (REIN) program in Nepal. The program started with the installation of smart Hub in Robang School last month and continued in Shree ram secondary school, Janata Higher Secondary School, Shree Narayansthan Secondary School, Shree Mahendradaya Secondary School and Dedithumka Secondary School and Shree Secondary school, respectively and will be continuing for all the selected schools.

The Smart Hub includes a 55-inch Smart Television, an android tablet, Wi-Fi modem and basic network connections, hard disks, all safely placed into a lockable cup board. The schools will provide a lockable regular class room and a male and female staff for the safe keeping of the equipment. The prepared materials will be given to the schools in hard disks or by online means like YouTube which the teachers of rural schools can download and use as resource materials.

On the 18th a team went to Shree Ram Secondary School, Koshidekha Kavrepalanchok and fixed the Smart Television. There are 301 students studying and Rajman Tamang is the Principal of this school. On the same day the team completed the work at Janata Higher Secondary School, Hokse-8, Panchkhal Municipality Kavrepalanchok. There

are 317 students and Mr. Tara Krishna Nepali is the Principal in this school.

On the 20th also, the same team went to Shree Narayansthan Elementary School, Hokse-7, Panchkhal Municipality, Kavrepalanchok and fixed the Smart Television. Fr. Arul and Fr. Raja joined with the team. There are 150 students and Mr. Tika Kafle is the Principal in this school.

On the 24th, they fixed Smart Television at Shree Dedithumka Secondary School, Dhodeni, Mandandeupur-8, Kavrepalanchok. There are 380 students studying and Mr. Khum Raj KC is the Principal.

To Shree Mahendrodaya Secondary School Patidanda, Sunkoshi, Sindhupalchok district, the team fixed the Smart Television on the 25th. 419 students are enrolled in this school and Mr. Krishna Dangal is the Principal.

On the 26th, the team with Fr. Arul went to Shree Secondary School, Rakathum, Ramechhap district. When they reached Dhulikhal rain started. They had tea, then moved towards Rakhathum. The team reached the school at 02:30 p.m. Mr. Chkara Lal is the Principal here. There are nearly 17 staff here, and more than 457 students are studying in this school. The students are coming from different villages and most of them have to walk more than one and half hours. Fixing the smart hub set and explanation of programme took almost two hours. At 04:30 p.m. the team left school and reached Kathmandu at 09:00 p.m.



Fr. Raja enjoys his birthday



Fr. Arul ready to move

Fr. Roy is busy with video work for Ignatius year with College. Now he is busy with taking Fr. Cap's interview.

On the 25th Fr. Raja offered a Mass on his birthday. The staff organized a small Birthday celebration.

Fr. S. Arulandam

ST. XAVIER'S SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE

In the month of August, St. Xavier's Social Service Centre (SXSSC) had different activities which made the inmates of the three homes very active and enthusiastic. The girls spent their days attending online classes, and they plunged themselves into working in the kitchen, planting vegetables, and also did household chores as usual.

SXSSC expressed heartfelt gratitude to our donors (PAWA group) for providing 5 laptops for the girls and supporting us. We are very thankful to the PAWA group.

The final dhalan of the new building of SXSSC is completed recently. Almost forty workers were gathered and had lunch with the SXSSC family after

the dhalan.

The SEE result is out this month, nine of our students appeared for SEE (eight students from boys' home, and one student from girls' home). We are so ecstatic that all passed and Sailendra Ghimire, one among the nine got the highest GPA of 3.65(A+). The other 6 students got "A" and two students got "B+". SXSSC family celebrated their achievements.

Aruna Bhawan family celebrated the birthday of Ms. Silbanti Didi on 19 August with lots of love and happiness. We wished her a prosperous and long life and had a sumptuous meal in the evening.

SXSSC Correspondent



*Ms. Silbanti
Birthday girl*



Students trying out new donated laptops



Inmate of Gafney preparing for lunch



Final dhalan



Mr. Bir & Ashok with model of new house



Class ten boys after their result

SHISHU BIKASH KENDRA, POKHARA

The Lake city, Pokhara witnessed a heavy down pour of rain for a week. Most of the vegetable cultivations of the farmers was marred. Few supportive staff come to Shishu Bikas Kendra (SBK) sometimes to clean the place. We shared some vegetables with our supportive staff. Our SBK students are seen active in the social media wishing one another.

The online adoration, Mass for the parishioners and for the requesting families are carried out faithfully. All families get chance of taking up the weekly Mass readings. All our Catholic members are keeping well. We distributed dry food ration to all the families, including Our Lady of Pillar Church. Thanks to St. Paul Sisters and their benefactors. Their

generosity was a big help to the people in great need. Thanks to Sr. Mar-

tha and Fr. Ayar in carrying out the distributions on time. Fr. Ayar blessed the Hemja Good Shepherd Sisters' renovated house and also the new building of SBK staff, Mrs. Bina Mulmi.

We had simple and good feast day celebration on the 31 July. We invited Religious of Pokhara for the dinner. Fr. Ayar gave triduum talks to MC Sisters and motivational talks to OVN children. We invited our house employee's family to celebrate a day with us. They looked happy and content. Frs. Amit and Ayar went to Kathmandu. Amit is back to Pokhara after completing his work. 'You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.' – St. Augustine of Hippo.



1



2



5



6



3. Ayar offering online mass
4. Fr. Ayar giving orientation to Opportunity Village children

1. Opportunity Village children

2. A Pillar father attending mass in MC convent on their feast day

5. Staff & their families

6. Local Religious invited for agape on 31 July

GOOD SHEPHERD, TIPLING

The Good Shepherd church was opened on the feast day of St. Ignatius for regular Saturday Mass. In mid-July, distribution of dry rations to 35 poor and needy families of Namsa, Lapdung and Majet were done. Fr. Anup went for home visit after four and half years due to pandemic. He is back to Kathmandu and soon be in Tipling. Meanwhile Fr. Manu alone, taking care of the Parish. Our cook Prem Rani Ghale gave birth to a baby girl on 15th August and since then Fr. Manu is managing cooking and trying new dishes. Agriculture NGO in Tipling conducted evaluation program from 16th to 18th August in our church hall. Good Shepherd church and residence construction contract has been signed with Yak Construction. Lisa Tamang after passing class 10 has joined CJ Sisters as a postulant. She will stay in Biratnager. Tipling vocation tally is growing. These days we are having intense monsoon rains in Tipling.

Fr. Anup Minj

DESIDERI HOUSE, BOUDHA

After a quiet start, the monsoon season here in Boudha has become quite busy as a new school year approaches. The BC Office of International Programs, which looks after the Boston College Nepal Program, has a new director, and all “global education” efforts are now being headed up by Fr Jim Keenan SJ, a well-known ethics specialist in the BC Theology Dept. BC-OIP is experimenting this year with a “hybrid” program -- which basically means at they will draw on their contacts throughout the world for online programs.

I am struggling to master Microsoft Teams, the software that the Centre for Buddhist Studies has chosen to use for its pandemic online learning. It's quite interesting how many times our IT director says things like “Oh, that feature doesn't really work” when I call for help. Fortunately, my class sizes are manageable, and I can use email and Zoom as back-ups. In addition to the BA and MA students I have two PhD candidates to supervise.

The Jesuit Conference of Asia-Pacific region (JCAP) sponsors an annual JCAP Buddhist Studies and Dialogue. Members from heavily Buddhist territories take turns hosting the August conference in their home countries. Last year's planned meeting in Seoul, Korea was cancelled or postponed (depending on how optimistic you are). This year we met online. I was “rapporteur” for the two-day meeting, which means I took notes.

The Ecumenism and Inter-religious Relations council, which advises Fr General on issues related to the world's religions, is now part of the Secretariat for the Service of Faith, headed by Fr James Hanvey, a British Province Jesuit and old friend. Our annual meeting in Rome is cancelled for the second time and we will meet via Zoom during the first week of September. My job as convenor of the EIR council has been minimized for the time being by the pandemic.

Fr. Greg Sharkey

DIASPORA

EAST COST, GUYANA

Learning lessons from East Coast Catholic community.

Priestly life revolves around people, but that is especially true for a Parish Priest. This was my first full time Parish ministry. It was a pleasant and enriching experience for me. There was always a gathering of some kind, parish meeting, prayer service or some other parish work. Every day was different. I had a great desire to accompany the parishioners and I learnt a lot from my parishioners.

1) **Interaction with laity:** It was enjoyable working closely with lay people. I experienced their generosity and devout faith. The parishioners taught me much about trust. Working as a pastor in the churches, where everyone is reliable was an enjoyable experience. I built up a good relationship with parishioners by trusting others.

2) **Joy and Eagerness is Contagious:** Having engaged with different programmes, helping out different Catholic communities, visiting the sick and elderly people, giving sacraments, organizing prayer services, gave a great deal of joy. Some tasks would not have been enjoyable, without the eager support of parishioners. I count myself lucky to have had good people in my life. They spurred me on to do more and more.

3) I had the wonderful opportunity to experience the different cultures, cuisines and customs of Guyana,

thanks to the hospitality of my parishioners. It was a once in a lifetime experience.

4) **Observe and then change gradually:** Whenever we take up a new assignment, there is a tendency to want to change EVERYTHING. I had different plans and agendas to implement in the parish. The same with the parishioners. They had different ideas regarding conducting the services, sacraments, renovation of buildings and cynical opinions and complaints about people and events. I took some time to observe and learn. After a few months I started to make slow changes and fixed what I saw was important. Some people were happy, some were unhappy; others preferred to stay silent. It was a lesson in servant leadership and bringing together people with different mind sets and attitudes.

5) There were some interesting ideas raised when I arrived at Plaisance. One of the ideas was the renovation of the church. The previous Parish priests had agreed in principle to renovate the building but due to ideological differences and COVID -19 they could not proceed. The building committee had put on hold because of differing ideas and interest. Understanding the situation, God gave me an insight to find a way out of the problem. Through talking and reasoning, I managed to bring people together on different issues and solved many problems.

Fr. Boby Joseph

SENIOR HOME, MATIGARA

After completion of my studies, I came from Namchi and joined other Scholastics in Matigara and I am attending my regular classes from Monday to Saturday. Theological classes are interesting, professors are very creative and happy to see them using different methods in their teaching process. Lawrence is gone to Chennai, beginning of this month to complete his comprehensive exams. Darjeeling Bishop also visited us this month and it was nice to have a good interaction with him, he spent enough time with us and encouraged us to be strong in our vocation.

We celebrated Fr. Kalyan's Birthday on 27th in our community, many priests and scholastics joined for the celebration. We are planning to celebrated Niroj's birthday on 30th of this month. Weather seems to be good and we are having good rain here. We involve in our ministry whenever we don't have classes. We also participate in all the community activities, trying to attend online classes and trying to give enough time for our personal study and reflection.

Schs. Martin and Niroj

PREMAL JYOTI

“The first wealth is health”, is a remarkable observation made on life. The months of June to August were quite devastating. Around seventy percent of the scholastics were down with either viral or dengue fever. Vinay, Krish and Bipin, including other scholastics, had to be hospitalized. Our bad health affected the community and academic life quite significantly. However, amid all these on 15 August, we celebrated the feast of Assumption of our lady and the Independence Day. On 28 August, we began a day fruitful recollection which ended with the mass on the next day. Many of the scholastics are now back to normal life. We have been taking care of our health and are busy with our academic life. Thanks to everyone those praying for our good health.

Sch. Vinay Lakra

DNC, PUNE

All is well here. In spite of the Covid - 19 constraints the 31 Theology students are here busy with their studies. The Philosophers, about 78 of them, are expected by 20th September.

Fr. Ted Bowling is the oldest in the Community here. He is a Patna Jesuit, 97 years old. He is doing well with that age. On 5th September, this week, we will celebrate his 80th year as a Jesuit.

Fr. Paul Chemparathy

**UNIVERSAL INTENTION
- AN ENVIRONMENTALLY
SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE**



THE POPE VIDEO
Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



September 04	Fr. Jomon Jose K
September 04	Fr. Rufino A Coutinho
September 08	Fr. Robert Arockiasamy
September 17	Fr. Paul Chemparathy
September 23	Fr. Jiju Varghese Kevillil
September 25	N.S. Jay Ghale



- * Fr. Joseph Parekkattil, SJ (PAT, 85/65) passed away on August 27, 2021 in Holy Family Hospital, Patna.
- * Fr Roshan Lobo (KAR 49/32) died on August 13, 2021 in Bengaluru.
- * Fr Gregory Naik (GOA 88/70), passed away this on August 9, 2021 in Porvorim, Goa.
- * Fr. Cheruparambil J John, SJ (AND 72/56), passed away on August 7, 2021 in Secunderabad.
- * Fr. Placie Fonseca (BOM 84/62), passed away on August 1, 2021 in Mumbai.
- # Mrs. Michaelamma, 86 mother of Fr. Robert Arockiasamy (GUJ) passed away on August 30, 2021.

THOSE WHO SERVED IN NEPAL

09/09/2001	Charles Law
21/09/2011	Cornelius Curtin

LIFT UP YOUR HEART

A Lighthearted Fable Episode 3



Setting: A Saturday afternoon, in present time, at a coffee shop with the same friends: Hostess (Shova), Rabbi (Yeshua of Nazareth) and Disciple (Pokche, S.J.)

Shova: Welcome back, friends. Coffee as usual? **Rabbi:** Yes, please, Shova, and it's good to be back here again. **Shova:** Please sit down. Business is slow today so I'll just check on a few other customers and I'll join you. I remember you were going to say something about the Lord's Prayer today, right? **Pokche:** And you also promised us a story too, about an atheist. **Rabbi:** You've got good memories, both of you. I'll wait til you can join us. Shova. (turning to Pokche) You're looking good today, my friend. How do you feel?

Pokche: Still sad, but coping. **Rabbi:** You know you've never said exactly what it is that has been making you sad. I thought you would tell me without me asking. **Pokche:** And I thought you knew – or at least could make a good guess. It's Covid, Man, the pandemic and so many deaths! It's terrible! Like the news I got just a few days ago - a friend of mine lost his father, and a week later his only brother. Just think, in one week! It's so sad! **Rabbi:** Yes, you have good reason. It makes me very sad too. There's a big question in everyone's mind: why do such bad things happen to good people, and on such a massive scale? Want to talk about it? **Pokche:** Not now - I don't feel ready to talk about it yet. I'll let you know.

Shova (pulling up a chair): O my legs! it's so good to sit down. What were you going to tell us about the Our Father, Rabbi? **Pokche:** Now wait a minute. I'd like to hear the Rabbi's atheist story before we get into Biblical theology. **Rabbi:** No, no. I'm old fashioned. It's Ladies First. Ready? I won't take long and it touches on what we were saying about tragedies like the Covid pandemic. Here goes...

There are a few words at the end of the Our Father that have troubled some people, maybe many. During a retreat once with medical workers, one of them shared that she could not say those words "Lead us not into temptation". "How can I?" she said, "How can my loving Father ever lead me that way?" **Pokche:** She's got a point there. We pray it all the time without thinking what it might mean. **Rabbi:** Right. But the English translation of my Aramaic words is wrong. I actually said something like "Do not let us be overcome by the Trial". and the Trial? To trust God or not. That is the biggest temptation anyone can ever face. To trust or not to trust. That is the question. **Pokche and Shova:** Wow!

Shova: That's enough for one Saturday! **Rabbi:** Think about it in your context. Shalom!